

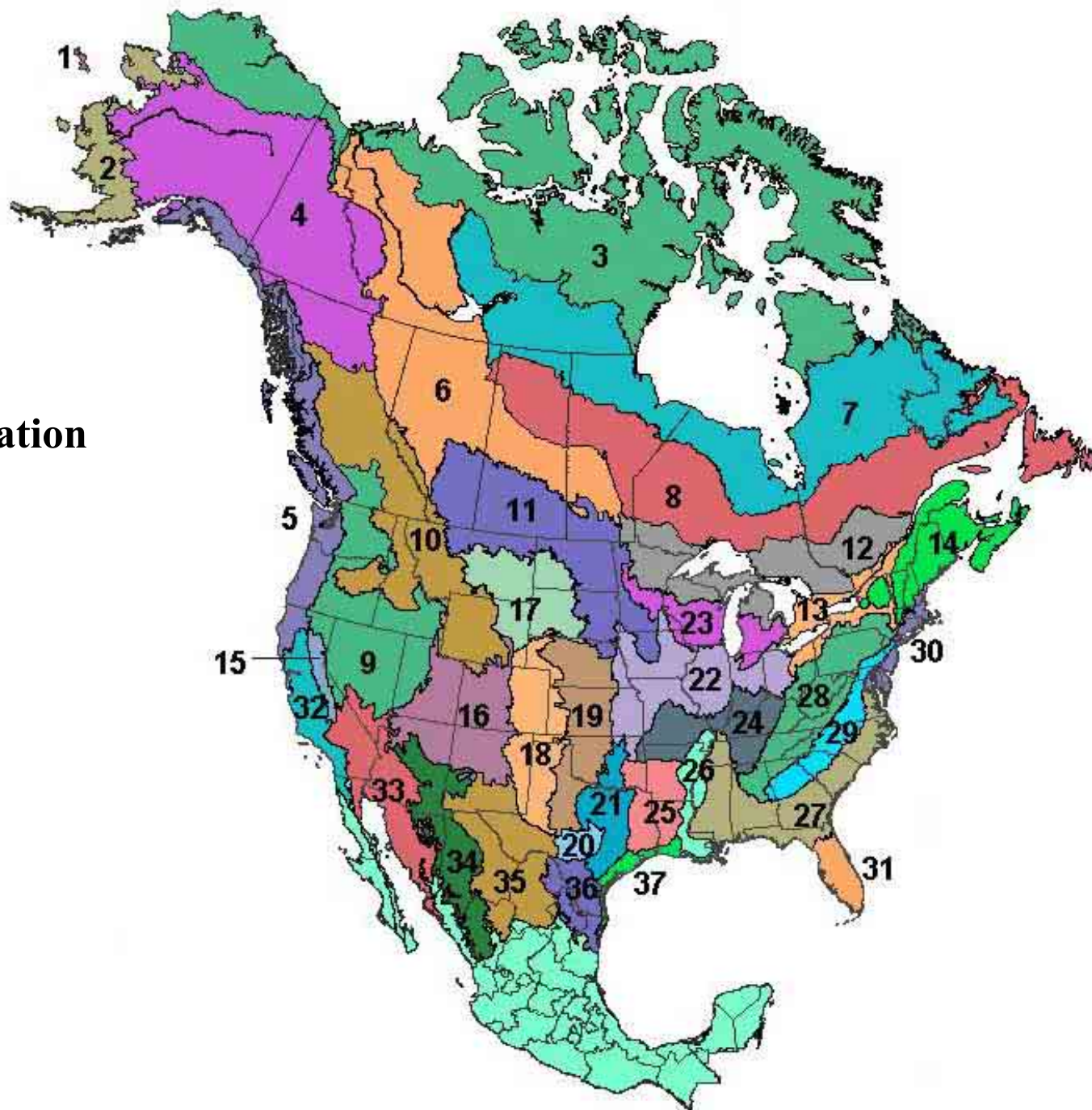
Canadian Wildlife Service

Update on Landbird Conservation in the Yukon Territory *Canada*



Environment Canada

Bird Conservation Regions



Conservation issues in the Yukon...

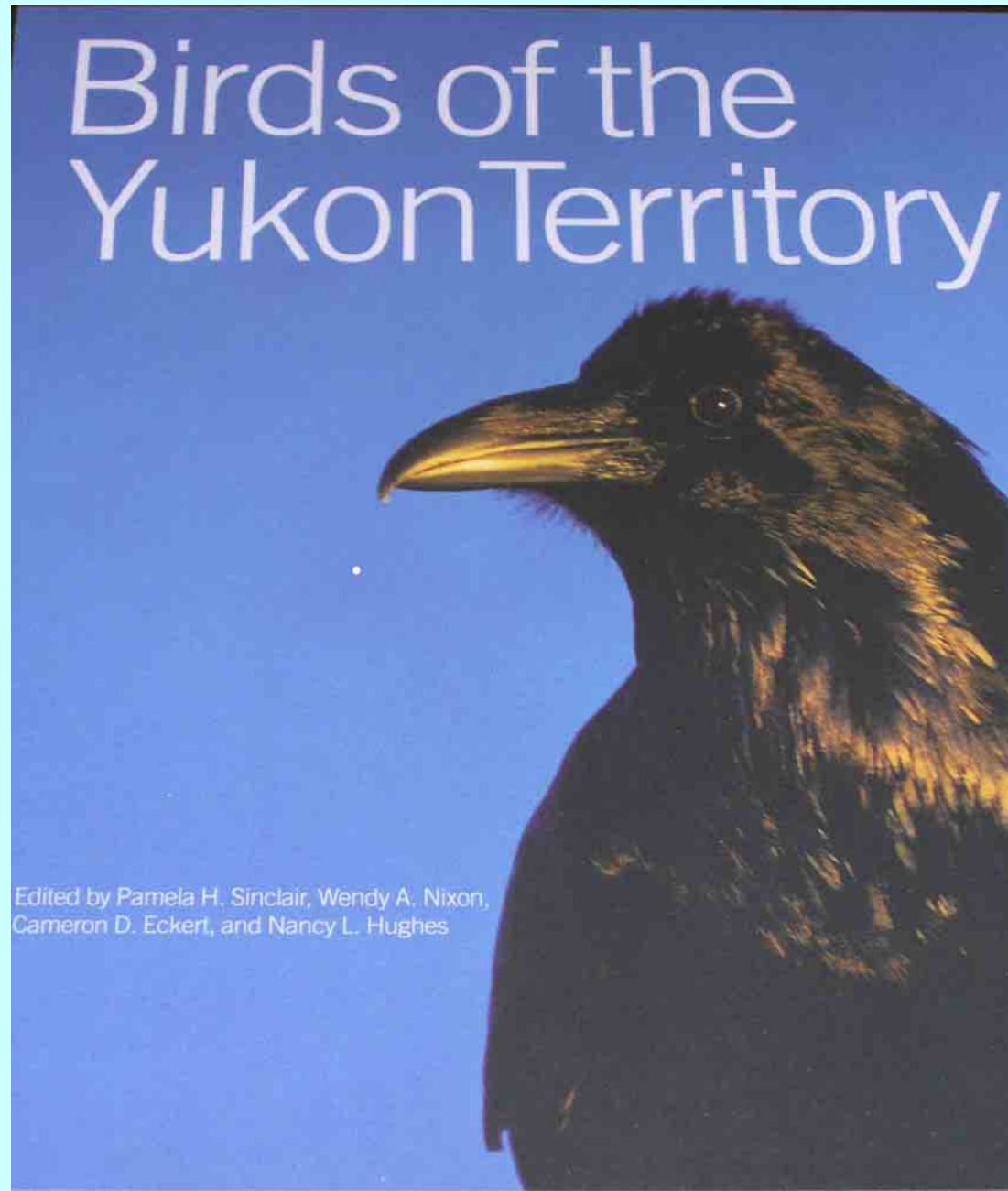
- Native landbird habitat is being **lost or altered** by **forestry, petroleum & mineral exploration and development, and expanding human habitation**
- Changes to habitat are occurring primarily in valley bottoms in the Yukon, especially where there is access
- **Global climate change** is expected to alter habitats, including the phenology and availability of food used by Yukon birds. Extreme weather events may also affect bird populations



Who is promoting landbird conservation in the Yukon?

- **Canadian Wildlife Service** through monitoring, research, environmental assessment, input to conservation planning processes, and public education
- **Parks Canada**
- **Yukon Government Department of Environment** through the Wildlife Viewing program and NatureServe Yukon (the Yukon's new Conservation Data Centre)
- **Non-Government organizations** including the Yukon Bird Club, Partners in Flight BC/Yukon, Ducks Unlimited, Yukon Conservation Society, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society

Canadian Wildlife Service work of the past decade...



Canadian Wildlife Service

Canadian Wildlife Service work of the past decade...

- Building & maintaining the **Birds of Yukon** database
- Preparing *Birds of the Yukon Territory*
- Collecting baseline information of **forest bird distributions and habitat associations in southern and northern Yukon**
- Preliminary **assessments of rare birds** in the Yukon
- Running a Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (**MAPS**) station south of Whitehorse
- Supporting a **Migration Monitoring site** (Albert Creek site as pilot)

Other bird monitoring programs

- Kluane Ecological Monitoring Program
- Alpine Birds (alpine and sub-alpine transects in Wolf Creek Research Basin)
- Involvement in boreal PRISM (Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring)



Work done primarily by volunteers

- Breeding Bird Surveys (13 routes – not enough to detect statistically significant trends)
- Christmas Bird Count (5 Yukon communities)
- Nocturnal Owl monitoring (22 routes)
- International Migratory Bird Day Count



New Projects and Priorities

- Develop a CWS Yukon ALL Bird Conservation Plan (Coordinated Bird Monitoring Program)
- Involvement in a Canadian National Strategy to Monitor Birds in the Boreal Forest - BCR 4, 6, 7, 8 (Craig Machtan's presentation)
- Research/monitor the **impacts of development** (petroleum, logging etc.) on forest birds



Future . . .

- Outreach and education
- Status assessment for priority **rare bird species**
- **Yukon Breeding Bird Database** (an enhanced Nest Record Scheme that includes breeders not associated with a nest and incorporates information on habitats)
- Determine species and regional **priorities for population monitoring** within the Yukon (BCR 4)
 - eg. expand & enhance BBS or use new monitoring protocols
- **A PIF Plan for BCR 4 ???** (Northwestern Interior Forest)
 - Link with Alaskan PIF research and monitoring program

Canadian Bird Conservation Regions.

